

LETTERS TO THE EDITORS

DOG DAZE

Dear Sirs:

Many thanks for Tinky in the October issue. As a lover of dogs, I've read this aloud to friends and we have laughed over it till we cried.... We would like more stories by Mercer Cook...

Frances W. Smith
Asheville, North Carolina

Dear Sirs:

Your recent publication of the experiences of Tinky has not only redeemed my caninity but in considerable measure restored my faith in humanity. My circumstances are all too similar to Tinky's. For instance, I was given, in a fit of hilarity, the whimsical name of Shirley! Frequently, when I am being called to meals, this leads to the most embarrassing confusion with an obnoxious small human female neighbor.

My mistresses regard the possibility of intellectual interest on the part of dogs with the same levity as Tinky's family. Only the other evening I lay down on the living-room floor, with one ear cocked to a speech by presidential candidate Stevenson, to study the views of various congressional candidates as tabulated in the copy of *The Washington Post and Times-Herald* someone had conveniently tossed down. I was startled by shrieks of laughter that drowned out Mr. Stevenson's analysis of the Middle East crisis and made it virtually impossible to concentrate on the views of Congressman Broyhill. From the subsequent conversation I was mortified to learn that they thought I was "pretending" to read and could not imagine I would be interested in this campaign since "there is no Falla or Checkers in it." To think that I would be judged so canicentric!

Please convey my profound sympathies to the former Professor and mink-clad Mrs. Anderson on the loss of their benefactor, Tinky (may he rest in peace).

Shirley
Arlington, Virginia

BOOKMAKER'S PLAUDIT

Dear Sirs:

I have just read, in the October issue of AMERICAS, the excellent report about José Olympio and his publishing firm by Paulo Rónai. . . . As a member of the concern, I want to extend my thanks.

Gabriel Athos Pereira
Caixa Postal 4323
Rio de Janeiro, Brazil

SINCERE, NOT SORDID

Dear Sirs:

I am deeply grateful to the person who reviewed *Una Moneda al Río y Otros Cuentos* (A Coin in the River and Other Stories) in your October issue. . . . It seems to me the reviewer, whoever he is, has a lot more sense than half the Chilean critics who see nothing but smut in the works of Nicomedes Guzmán. I am sure Mr. Guzmán himself will share my sentiments for the recognition of the abiding quality of his work.

Any fool can find fault, but it takes a genuine critic to point out and identify meritorious contributions. . . . Thanks a lot.

Paul J. Cooke
Monticello College
Alton, Illinois

The Organization of American States unites the twenty-one republics of the Western Hemisphere for the common purpose of maintaining peace, freedom, security, and welfare of all Americans. The member states are: Argentina, Bolivia, Brasil, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Cuba, the Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Guatemala, Haiti, Honduras, Mexico, Nicaragua, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, the United States, Uruguay, and Venezuela.

The OAS had its inception in 1890 during the First International Conference of American States, which met in Washington. Today, it operates through a large number of different agencies and institutions throughout the Hemisphere, all contributing to the common objective of preserving the peace and security of the member states and promoting, by cooperative action, their economic, social, and cultural development.

The Pan American Union, central permanent organ and General Secretariat of the OAS, has its headquarters in Washington, D. C. Called "The House of the Americas," its main building of white marble, with its tropical patio and Aztec Garden, is visited each year by thousands of Americans from all parts of the Western Hemisphere.

Pan American Day is celebrated annually throughout the Americas on April 14th.

MAIL BAG

The following correspondents, in search of pen pals throughout the Hemisphere, have asked AMERICAS to publish their names and addresses. Readers requesting this service must print their names and addresses and be able to write in at least two of the official OAS languages (English, Spanish, Portuguese, and French), shown below by the initials after the name. Those who are students are asked to say whether they are of high-school (H) or college (C) level. Stamp collectors are indicated by an asterisk.

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IN JANUARY . . .

The annual travel issue

- * Noted Brazilian writer Gilberto Freyre describes his home town, Recife
- * A trip through the Haitian back country
- * Good eating around the Hemisphere
- * Tips to shoppers on folk art of the Americas



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Tinny Mercer Cook Oct 28

To Probe the Earth and the Sky Elliot B. Roberts Jul 7

Too Much Paper Elizabeth B. Kilmer Mar 38

Townsend Excuma, Andrés *Second Columbus* May 23

TRANSPORTATION AND COMMUNICATION

Boats of No Return Enrique Bustner Mar 24

Flying Cargo Renée Little Mar 9

TRAVEL

Day at the Fair Aug 32

Fiesta Town James Norman Oct 10

Forgotten Island Wallace B. Alig Dec 14

Guatemalan Dances Dorothy Reynolds Jan 31

Haitian Hinterland Hugh B. Clegg Feb 26

How to Build a Tourist Industry Kathleen Walker Jan 18

My Trip Was Worth It Porter Hardy, Jr. Jan 3

Open Road in Costa Rica Esther and Wilbur Cross Jun 18

Other Mexico Érico Verissimo Jan 6

Popayán Christmas Andrew Hunter Whiteford Dec 7

Shopping Around Jan 12

Up the Amazon Elizabeth Keen Jan 25

UNITED STATES

Borrowed Families Marion Wilhelm Nov 23

Children's Book Fair Jan 30

Cuban's Ben Franklin José Antonio Portuondo Sep 8

Flying Cargo Renée Little Feb 9

Forgotten Island Wallace B. Alig Dec 14

Gauley Cure Elena Vinadé Ronan Aug 14

How to Build a Tourist Industry Kathleen Walker Jan 18

Meskuki Powwow Gertrude P. Kurath May 28

My Trip Was Worth It Porter Hardy, Jr. Jan 3

No Axe to Grind Aubrey B. Haines Apr 19

Spanish Mission to Virginia Lawrence T. King Nov 19

Up the Amazon Elizabeth Keen Jan 25



VENEZUELA

Miss World Rafael Pineda Feb 16

Venezuela Andrés Bello Ernesto Ardura Oct 16

Verissimo, Érico *Other Mexico* Jan 6

Venezuela Andrés Bello Ernesto Ardura Oct 16

Vinacua, Rodolfo Wall Feb 22



Walker, Kathleen *Gowns by Estévez* Dec 11

How to Build a Tourist Industry Jan 18

Wall Rodolfo Vinacua Feb 22

Warren, Leslie F. *Amazon Fireball* May 3

What Are Their Chances? Elizabeth B. Kilmer Sep 21

What's Happened to Latin America's Small Towns? Fernando Guillén Martínez Apr 8

Whitelord, Andrew Hunter *Popayán Christmas* Dec 7

Wilhelm, Marion *Borrowed Families* Nov 23

Wilson, Betty *Adventures in Folk Music* Sep 15

25.4 Feb 38

Window on the Cosmos Ismael Escobar Nov 3

Opposite: Green glazed terra-cotta pitcher discovered last year in sunken sixteenth-century Spanish galleon off Bermuda coast. Tucker-Canton Expedition made the amazing find